BRITISH COLUMBIA LAND STATISTICS

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Province of British Columbia

Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing

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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to bring together a range of statistics regarding the province's land base which were formerly scattered throughout numerous government publications and files. The land statistics presented in this document cover the four major components of a land information system; land quality, land status, land use and land cover. With these statistics now consolidated into a single source, individuals interested in provincial land statistics can more easily and quickly extract information about land in the province.

This document is organized into two general parts. The first part contains an overview of provincial land statistics. It includes summary tables for each type of land information (cover, status, use and quality) as well as a summary of historical and current statistics pertaining to the administration of Crown land in British Columbia. The second part provides highlights and tables for specific resource uses such as agriculture, forestry, grazing, wildlife, recreation, mining and various settlement uses.

Statistics contained in this report are primarily intended to provide information on land at a broad provincial level. Although more detailed or site-specific statistics may be available in some areas of the province for certain land uses, they cannot be effectively incorporated into a document of this type unless they are available on a provincial basis. This applies particularly to the data on land quality and land cover. In addition, it should be noted that because of definitional inconsistencies not all of the statistics are directly comparable from one resource sector to another.

TABLE 1

Land and Freshwater Area by Province or Territory ('000s hectares)

Province or Territory	Land Area	Freshwater Area	Total Area	Percent
British Columbia	93,973	1,507	94,780	9.5
Alberta	64,439	1,680	66,119	6.6
Saskatchewan	57,070	8,163	65,233	6.5
Manitoba	54,838	10,159	64,995	6.5
Ontario	89,119	17,739	106,858	10.7
Quebec	135,079	18,389	154,068	15.5
New Brunswick	7,209	135	7,344	0.7
Nova Scotia	5,184	265	5,549	0.6
Prince Edward Island	566		566	0.1
Newfoundland	37,169	3,403	40,572	4.1
Yukon Territory	47,897	448	48,345	4.8
Northwest Territories	329,102	13,330	342,432	34.4
Canada	921,543	75,318	997,081	100.0

Source: Energy, Mines and Resources Canada, Geographical Mapping Division

Provincial Overview

British Columbia has 94.8 million hectares of land and freshwater bodies comprising 9.5 percent of the national land area (Table 1). Province wide statistics for this land base are described below in terms of land quality, land status, land use and land cover. These attributes comprise the basic elements of a land information system.

Land Quality

Land quality is defined as the inherent capability of land to support specific land use activities. The seven-class rating system of land capability for agriculture, wildlife and recreation undertaken by the Canada Land Inventory (CLI) in British Columbia during the 1960s provides the best representation of land quality at the provincial level for these resource uses. Although CLI provides a land capability classification for forestry, the forest site classification system used by the Ministry of Forests for inventory purposes is generally considered more accurate. Land quality data for each of these resource uses are shown in Table 2.

It is evident from the statistics in this table that there is little land in the province with a high capability to support agriculture, forestry, wildlife or recreation uses. Most land tends to have only moderate to low capability for use. Moreover, land with a high capability to support one type of resource use often has soil and terrain characteristics making it highly capable for other land uses. The result is often competition for the use of the already limited productive lands in the province.

TABLE 2

Land Quality for Selected Resource Uses in British Columbia (hectares)

Forestry

Site Class	Good	Medium	Poor	Total
Mature	5,171,821	8,787,478	12,883,838	24,883,063
Immature	1,148,798	2,853,897	7,971,418	14,978,113
Total	9,320,449	15,653,973	30,965,344	59,939,126

Agriculture

CLI Class*	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Unclassified
If unimproved	11,053	235,451	691,889	1,701,510	6,871,015	5,418,539	15,253,305	84,787,109
If improved	69,849	297,894	999,844	3,131,581	6,137,470	5,357,181	14,858,573	84,787,929

Wildlife

CLI Class*	HW	1	2W	2	3W	3	4 to 7	Unclassified
Ungulates	302,431	3,547	2,895,789	183,856	1,998,255	8,304,382	42,052,918	35,290,883
Waterfowl		491,178		53,235		131,681	62,037,435	32,077,463

Recreation

CLI Class*	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Unclassified
	10,813	181,888	1,088,439	4,731,880	15,944,539	28,269,884	3,256,814	35,339,573

Source: See appropriate tables in text.

1 Canada Land Inventory Classification.

Land Status

Land status describes the tenure or ownership and the extent to which various rights to use the land have been legally reserved or assigned. Detailed statistics on land status in British Columbia are shown in Table 3.

Land Status in British Columbia - 1984

TABLE 3

Land Status Category	Area (ha)	Percent
Federal Land[1]		
National Parks	444,442	0.5
Indian Reserves	338,288	0.3
Defence Lands	57,266	0.06
Transportation	15,477	0.01
Miscellaneous Departments	20,331	0.03
TOTAL Federal Land	875,805	0.9
Provincial Land		
Provincial Forests	70,100,000	74.0
Proposed Provincial Forests	2,580,000	2.7
Tree Farm Licences	6,935,921	7.2
Community Pastures	167,689	0.2
Provincial Parks	4,644,788	4.9
Regional Parks	7,852	0.01
Crown Land under *Land Act* Tenure	430,588	0.5
Ecological Reserves (Land Only)	100,943	0.1
Vacant and Other Crown Land	1,815,412	1.9
TOTAL Provincial Land	86,583,188	91.4
Private Land (1978)	5,504,000	5.8
TOTAL Land Area	92,943,000	98.1
TOTAL Water Area	1,857,000	1.9
TOTAL Area	94,780,000	100.0

1 Data for Federal land are from Central Real Property Inventory.

TABLE 4 Crown Land Transferred to Private Ownership 1874 - 1983

Time Period	Total for Period (000's ha)	Percent	Cumulative Total (000's ha)
1874-1883	222.8	2.9	222.8
1884-1895	474.7	6.3	697.5
1896-1905	2,767.9	36.6	3,465.4
1906-1915	1,402.3	18.5	4,867.7
1916-1925	883.8	11.7	5,751.5
1926-1935	353.1	4.7	6,104.6
1936-1945	280.5	3.7	6,385.1
1946-1955	411.4	5.4	6,796.5
1956-1965	324.4	4.3	7,120.9
1966-1975	266.9	3.5	7,387.8
1976-1983	184.7	2.4	7,572.5
TOTAL[1]	7,572.5	100.0	

Source: Data compiled from Statistics Canada (1983) *Historical Statistics of Canada*, 2nd edition and Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, *Annual Reports* for 1976 to 1982-83.

[1]Lands reverted to the Crown (e.g. railway grants) are not accounted for.

The vast majority of land in British Columbia is provincial Crown land. Provincial forest and tree farm licence areas dominate provincial land status, occupying almost 80 million hectares. Provincial parks are the second largest category of provincial Crown land, covering just under 5 percent of the province. Private lands occupy about 6 percent of the province, while federal land holdings cover less than 1 percent.

Historical statistics on the land area transferred to private ownership in British Columbia are shown in Table 4. These data identify the amount of land alienated from the Crown and include dispositions of both federal and provincial Crown land. Some of these lands have since reverted to the Crown.

A detailed breakdown of the area of Crown land currently administered under tenure by the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing is shown in Table 5. It is estimated from Table 3 that an additional 1,600,000 hectares of vacant or reserved Crown land are administered by the Ministry.

Area of Crown Land Tenures Administered by the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing - 1984

TABLE 5

Tenures	Area (ha)	Percent
Land Tenures		
Grazing	162,892	37.3
Agriculture (extensive)	188,266	43.1
Agriculture (intensive)	2,714	0.6
Recreational Cottage Lots	6,234	1.4
Industrial	4,083	1.0
Commercial	4,555	1.0
Community	2,642	0.6
Quarry Materials	6,118	1.4
Institutional	4,384	1.0
Transportation & Utilities	45,550	10.4
Residential	472	0.1
Miscellaneous	2,689	0.6
TOTAL	430,599	98.5%
Aquatic Tenures		
Floating Community	2	—
Floating Cabins	25	—
Private Moorage	28	—
Industrial	2,511	0.6
Commercial	283	—
Log Handling	3,341	0.8
Aquaculture	381	0.1
Miscellaneous	132	—
TOTAL	6,703	1.5%
GRAND TOTAL	437,302	100%

Source: Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, *Management Information System Report* (June 1984).

Land Use

Land use refers to the active use which man makes of the land. Categories of use include forestry (logging), agriculture (growing crops and raising livestock), mining (extraction of metallic, industrial and structural minerals, coal and petroleum resources), recreation and settlement uses. A provincial summary of land use is provided in Table 6. Forestry is by far the dominant land use in the province. Other significant land uses are livestock grazing (10 percent), recreation (5 percent) and agriculture (1 percent). Settlement uses, excluding agriculture, occupy less than 1 percent of the province's land base.

TABLE 6

Land Use in British Columbia - 1984

Land Use Activity	Area (ha)	Percent
Forest		
Land Presently Available and Suitable (TFL & TSA)	22,606,572	23.9
Not Stocked	3,560,368	3.7
Not Available	2,383,746	2.5
Not Suitable	14,713,917	15.5
	43,264,603	45.6

Land Use Activity	Area (ha)	Percent
Grazing		
Utilized Crown Range	8,322,903	
Community Pastures	167,699	
Unimproved Farmland	1,028,355	
	9,518,957	10.0
Agriculture (1981)		
Field Crops	568,241	
Improved Pasture	266,884	
Summer Fallow	63,528	
Other	204,029	
	1,102,682	1.2
Recreation		
National Parks	483,900	
Provincial Parks	4,644,769	
Regional Parks	7,852	
	5,136,521	5.4
Settlement (1981)		
Urban and Rural Settlement	276,342	
Rural Transportation (Roads and Railways)	218,988	
Farmstead	26,700	
	521,400	0.6
Mining (1981)	73,838	0.08
Transmission Lines	39,430	0.04
Pipelines	9,217	0.01
Ecological Reserves	100,983	0.1
TOTAL Determined Land Use	59,767,631	63.1
Uncategorized (primarily barren)	33,205,269	35.0
TOTAL Land Area	92,973,000	98.1
TOTAL Water Area	1,807,000	1.9
TOTAL Area	94,750,000	100.0

TABLE 7

Land Cover in British Columbia

Cover Type	Area (ha)	Percent
Woody Vegetation		
Forest Land (1984)		
Coniferous	35,259,223	37.2
Deciduous	4,036,588	4.3
	39,284,811	41.5
Brush	1,848,142	1.9
Transitional	8,610,723	9.1
	10,458,865	11.0
Census Farms (1981)		
Woodlands	204,029	0.2
Orchards	11,516	—
Vines	5,580	—
Shrubs	1,244	—
	222,369	0.2
TOTAL Woody Vegetation	49,966,045	52.7
Grasses and Other Non-Wood Plants		
Rangeland (1984)		
Alpine	24,040,843	25.3
Open Range	341,736	0.4
Wetland	1,677,290	1.8
Clearings	167,732	0.2
	26,227,601	27.7
Census Farms (1981)		
Annually Cultivated Crops	549,802	0.6
Improved Pasture	266,884	0.2
Other Unimproved Land	1,028,355	1.1
	1,845,041	1.9
Community Pastures (1983)	167,699	0.2
TOTAL Grasses	28,240,341	29.8

Cover Type	Area (ha)	Percent
Denuded (Bare) Surfaces		
Non-Vegetated (1984)	2,611,092	2.7
Summer Fallow (1981)	63,528	0.1
TOTAL Denuded Surfaces	2,674,620	2.8
Constructed Cover		
Built-on Land (1981)		
Urban and Rural Settlement	276,342	
Rural Transportation (Road & Rail)	218,988	
Farmstead	26,070	
	521,400	0.6
Industrial Parks (1984)	15,108	
Mining Lands (1981)	73,838	
Transmission Lines (1983)	39,430	
Pipelines (1983)	9,217	
	137,593	0.1
TOTAL Constructed Cover	658,993	0.7
Unclassified		
Parks	5,136,521	5.4
Wildlife Lands	18,800	—
Ecological Reserves (Land)	100,000	0.1
Other	6,177,680	6.5
TOTAL Unclassified	11,433,001	12.0
Water	1,807,000	2.0
TOTAL Area	94,780,000	100.0

Land Cover

Land cover refers to the vegetation and artificial construction covering the land surfaces, and is typically described in terms of the following general categories: woody vegetation (primarily forest cover); grassland; denuded (or barren) surfaces; constructed

cover; and water. Available data on land cover are summarized in Table 7.

Approximately half of the province is covered by woody vegetation, which includes productive forest land as well as private woodlots and orchards. Grassland is the second most dominant form of land cover, and comprises alpine tundra, open range, transitional forests as well as agricultural lands. The remaining three cover categories (denuded cover, constructed cover and water) occupy less than 10 percent of the total land base.

Agricultural Land

Only a small portion of the province's land base has the capability to support agricultural production. Using the Canada Land Inventory agricultural land capability ratings of Class 1, 2 and 3 lands, which define lands capable of growing a wide range of crops, only 950,000 hectares or less than 1 percent of the province's land area can be considered highly productive agricultural land. While a further 2.6 million hectares of Class 4 land are available for agricultural production in British Columbia, the possible range of crops that can be grown on this land is relatively restricted unless special management practices are implemented.

Soil Capability for Agriculture in British Columbia

TABLE 8

Capability[1] Class	Unimproved Rating (ha)	Percent	Improved Rating[2] (ha)	Percent
1	21,055	—	69,989	0.1
2	235,451	0.2	397,634	0.4
3	691,958	0.7	999,044	1.0
4	1,701,510	1.8	2,131,581	2.2
5	6,671,015	7.0	6,157,470	6.4
6	5,418,538	5.7	5,357,181	5.6
7	15,253,305	15.9	14,886,573	15.5
Not classified	64,787,168	68.7	64,787,329	68.7
TOTAL Area	94,784,000	100.0	94,784,000	100.0

Source: Environment and Land Use Committee Secretariat (1976), *Agriculture Land Capability in British Columbia*, ARDA Project No. 89077.

1 Organic soils are included with the mineral soils of the same capability rating.

2 Based on improvements such as drainage, irrigation, dyking, stone removal, etc.

Class 5 soils, which are capable of producing perennial forage crops only, occupy an additional 6.7 million hectares. Although not generally considered agricultural land, some of these soils can, with intensive farm management practices, be used for cultivating field crops. In addition, with proper drainage, irrigation, dyking and other improvements, another 1 million hectares have capability for production.

Most of the agricultural land in British Columbia has been designated as Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) under the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*. ALRs have been established over 4.7 million hectares of both private and Crown land in an effort to preserve agricultural land and to encourage development of the agricultural industry. Table 9 indicates the change in total area of the ALR since its inception in 1973.

TABLE 9 Area of Agricultural Land Reserves in British Columbia

	Area (ha)	Percent
Total A.L.R. at Designation (1973)	4,721,295.3	100.0
Total area included since designation	41,037.5	+.9
Total area excluded on request of Government	59,821.7	-1.3
Total area excluded on request of individuals	16,443.5	-0.3
Total area excluded subsequent to appeal	2,398.0	-0.1
Current A.L.R. as of January 19[illegible]	4,683,871.6	99.2

Source: British Columbia, Agricultural Land Commission (1983) *Agricultural Land Reserve Statistics*, Burnaby.

Soil Capability for Agriculture in the Agricultural Land Reserves - 1978

TABLE 10

Soil Capability Classification	Percent
1	1.0
2	6.0
3	15.0
4	31.0
5	32.0
6	9.0
7	4.0
	98.0
Water	2.0
TOTAL	100.0

Source: Select Standing Committee on Agriculture (1978) *Inventory of Agricultural Land Reserves in B.C.* Phase I Research Report. Victoria.

As of 1981, approximately 2.2 million hectares of land in the province were classified as census farmland (farm operations with sales exceeding $1,200 in 1980). Most of this land is owner-operated. Of the areas not owned, a significant portion is Crown land leased from the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing. Although most census farmland is within the ALR, the actual percentage is not known.

Of the 2.2 million hectares of census farmland in the province, less than half is presently used for crop production. Although the vast majority of "unimproved" farmland has low capability for agriculture (i.e. Classes 4 and 5), there are some private lands with high capability which remain unused for agriculture. These areas, along with arable Crown lands, offer the greatest potential for further agricultural development opportunities in the province.

TABLE 11 Tenure of Farmland in British Columbia 1981

	Area (ha)	Percent
TOTAL Area Owned by Operator	1,537,035	70.6
TOTAL Area Rented by Operator[1]	641,561	29.4
TOTAL Area	2,178,596	100.00

Source: Statistics Canada (1982), Cat. No. 96-911

1 Includes both private and Crown land.

TABLE 12 Use of Farmland in British Columbia 1981

	Area (ha)	Percent
Improved Land		
Field Crops	568,241	26.1
Improved Pasture	266,884	12.3
Summer Fallow	63,528	2.9
Other Improved	47,677	2.2
TOTAL Improved Land	946,330	43.4
Unimproved Land		
Woodland	204,029	9.4
Other Unimproved	1,028,355	47.2
TOTAL Unimproved Land	1,232,384	56.6
TOTAL Area	2,178,714	100.0

Source: Statistics Canada (1982), Cat. No. 96-911.

Forest Land

British Columbia has approximately 44 million hectares of productive forest land, of which 43.3 million hectares are provincial Crown land managed by the Ministry of Forests for timber production. The remainder consists of Crown granted lands within certified tree farms and federal Indian Reserve lands having productive forest.

Of the 43.3 million hectares of Crown land classed as productive forest, only 22.6 million hectares are considered presently productive, available and suitable for timber production (Table 13). Forest land which is not presently productive includes 14.7 million hectares of inaccessible areas and lands with problem forest types, and 3.6 million hectares of land not satisfactorily restocked or with non-commercial stands. In addition, there are 2.4 million hectares of environmentally sensistive areas and forest land in the process of being coverted to other uses.

Virtually all of the productive forest land in the province plus extensive areas of rangeland, wetlands and alpine lands have been designated as provincial forest under the *Forest Act*. Provincial forests are multiple use lands intended for timber production, forage production, forest-oriented recreation, water management and fisheries and wildlife resource purposes. Although non-forest uses such as recreational cottaging may be permitted in provincial forests under certain conditions, they are generally discouraged. As of March 31, 1985, approximately 70 million hectares of Crown land in the provice had been designated as provincial forest. A further 2.5 million hectares are proposed for provincial forest status.

Provincial forests are administered using two important types of management units: Timber Supply Areas (TSAs) and Tree Farm Licences (TFLs). TSAs consist of provincial Crown land from which the established annual allowable cut is normally committed for varying periods to many licencees under a variety of harvesting arrangements. TFLs usually include some private land as well as provincial crown land and are committed to a single licencee.

The province's forest land base presently supports an

TABLE 13 [illegible] (hectares)

Land Classification	Timber Supply Areas	Tree Farm Licences	Total	Percent
Presently Available and Suitable	[illegible]	[illegible]	22,606,572	25.4
Not Stocked[1]	[illegible]	73,440	80,368	4.0
Potentially Available and Suitable	[illegible]	[illegible]	26,166,940	29.4
Not Available[2]	[illegible]	97,807	2,383,746	2.7
Not Suitable[3]	13,908,719	805,198	14,713,917	16.6
TOTAL Forest Land	[illegible]	3,719,271	43,264,603	48.7
Not Productive[4]	[illegible]	3,216,650	38,705,293	43.5
Alienated[5]	[illegible]	612,966	6,938,022	7.8
TOTAL Land Area[6]	81,389,031	7,548,887	88,907,918	100.00

Source: Ministry of Forests.

1 Not satisfactorily restocked, disturbed (stocking doubtful) and non-commercial brush.
2 Environmentally sensitive areas, anticipated withdrawals and withdrawals in process.
3 Inoperable areas and problem forest types.
4 Alpine forest, water, open range and other.
5 Crown grants, parks and miscellaneous.
6 Excludes major parks and settlement areas.

annual allowable cut of 75 million cubic metres. Approximately 68 percent of this annual allowable cut is taken from TSAs. Of the remainder, approximately 27 percent comes from TFLs and the remaining 5 percent occurs on private and federal lands (Environment Canada, 1983). On average, approximately 164,000 hectares are logged each year in British Columbia (Table 14). Another 41,000 hectares of forest land are burned by wildfires each year.

The quality of forest land in the province is highly variable. Only 19 million hectares (44 percent of the province's productive forest land) are rated medium to good in terms of producing commercial stands of timber. These highly productive lands are generally found along the west coast and in the interior wet belt. The remaining 24.3 million hectares of forest land in the province are comprised of poor and low site class lands (Table 15).

Area Harvested for Timber in British Columbia[1] 1972-1983 (hectares)

TABLE 14

Year	Clear Cut	Selective Cut	Total
1972	132,965	19,422	152,393
1973	149,250	23,926	173,176
1974	130,849	18,004	148,853
1975	100,501	19,070	119,571
1976	133,277	23,699	156,976
1977	147,897	28,055	175,952
1978	140,169	25,912	166,081
1979	168,820	27,713	196,533
1980	157,395	30,152	187,547
1981	144,786	22,439	167,225
Ten Year Average 1972-81	140,591	23,839	164,430
1980-81[2]	156,786	31,048	187,834
1981-82	125,146	22,741	147,887
1982-83	134,430	27,742	162,172

Source: Ministry of Forests, *Annual Reports* 1982-83, 1981-82, 1980-81 and *1981 Annual Report Statistical Supplement.*

1. Includes all Crown land and excludes all private lands except those in Tree Farm Licences, Tree Farms and Farm Woodlot Licences.
2. Starting in 1980 all data was recorded for fiscal years rather than calendar.

In terms of forest cover, the Ministry of Forests has defined ten distinct forest growth types in TSAs. These growth types are based on combinations of "inventory type groups" having common leading tree species. The two most common growth types, lodgepole pine and spruce, cover more than half the forest land in TSAs (Table 16). It should be noted that although a tree species is most commonly found in association with its own growth type, it can also occur in stands of other growth types. Comparable data on growth types for TFLs is not available.

TABLE 15 Quality of Productive Forest Land in British Columbia - 1984

Site Class	Age Class Immature	Age Class Mature	Total	Percent
Tree Farm Licence				
Good	180,363	253,309	433,672	10.9
Medium	817,188	1,103,545	1,920,733	48.4
Poor	280,523	1,003,608	1,284,131	32.4
Low	53,733	275,077	328,810	8.3
TOTAL TFL	1,331,807	2,635,539	3,967,346	100.0
Timber Supply Area				
Good	968,435	1,918,350	2,886,785	7.3
Medium	5,038,709	8,693,931	13,732,640	35.0
Poor	7,690,895	11,990,318	18,681,213	50.1
Low	1,374,213	1,609,960	2,984,173	7.6
TOTAL TSA	15,072,252	24,212,559	39,284,881	100.0
TFL and TSA				
Good	1,148,798	2,171,659	3,320,457	7.7
Medium	5,855,897	9,797,476	15,653,373	36.2
Poor	7,971,418	12,993,926	20,965,344	48.5
Low	1,427,946	1,885,037	3,312,983	7.7
TOTAL Forest Land	16,404,059	26,848,098	43,252,157	100.0

Source: Ministry of Forests, Strategic Studies Branch.

Forest Cover within Timber Supply Areas in British Columbia - 1984 (hectares)

TABLE 16

Growth Type	Age Class Immature	Age Class Mature	Total	Percent
Fir	1,854,737	1,256,059	3,110,796	7.9
Cedar	93,122	1,518,343	1,611,465	4.1
Hemlock	476,047	2,047,734	2,523,781	6.4
Balsam	984,780	3,803,572	4,788,352	12.2
Spruce	3,227,223	5,694,481	8,922,704	22.7
White Pine	13,458	53,505	66,963	0.2
Lodgepole Pine	5,726,676	8,073,969	13,800,645	35.1
Ponderosa Pine	41,803	49,506	91,309	0.2
Larch	279,820	62,388	342,208	0.9
Deciduous	2,374,586	1,652,002	4,026,588	10.2
TOTAL	15,072,252	24,212,559	39,284,811	100.0

Source: Ministry of Forests, Strategic Studies Branch.

TABLE 17

Status of Rangeland in British Columbia

Land Status	Area (ha)	Percent
Provincial Crown Land		
Grazing Permits and Licences (1984)[1]	8,322,903	85.1
Community Pastures (1983)[2]	167,700	1.7
TOTAL	490,603	86.8
Private Land (Census Farms)[3]		
Improved Pasture (1981)[4]	266,884	2.7
Other Unimproved Land (1981)[5]	1,028,355	10.5
TOTAL	1,295,239	13.2
TOTAL Utilized Rangeland	9,785,842	100.00

1 Ministry of Forests, Strategic Studies Branch.
2 Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Regional Extension Services, *1983 Community Pasture Annual Report.*
3 Statistics Canada, 1982, Cat. No. 96-911. May include some Crown leased land.
4 Pastures or grazing land which has been improved by cultivation, drainage, irrigation, fertilization, seeding or spraying.
5 Native pasture, unimproved hay land, rangeland, sloughs, marshes or rocky land.

Rangeland

There are approximately 10 million hectares of rangeland in British Columbia. Rangeland is defined as land having usable forage for grazing and includes grasslands, open forests, forested range, wet meadows and pasture lands. In addition to providing forage for spring, summer and fall grazing of beef cattle, many rangeland areas also support significant wildlife populations.

The vast majority of rangeland in British Columbia is Crown range administered by the Minstry of Forests. Most, but not all of the province's Crown range is located within provincial forest boundaries and thus is managed in a multiple use context with other forest resources. Licences

Use and Cover of Rangeland for Timber Supply Areas in British Columbia - 1984

TABLE 18

Land Cover	Utilized Crown Range (ha)	Animal Unit Months	Percent
Open Range	221,232	122,293	13.2
Wetland	275,299	61,077	6.6
Alpine	277,400	17,394	1.9
Ponderosa Pine Forest	56,104	18,597	2.0
Dry Forest	1,228,399	206,219	22.3
Lodgepole Pine Forest	1,799 303	112,569	12.2
Wet Forest	630,398	19,121	2.0
Deciduous Forest	1,420,057	76,285	8.3
Transitional	1,894,299	185,075	20.0
Clearings	95,334	76,293	8.3
Non-Vegetated	6,251	108	—
Brush	386,882	19,246	2.1
Urban	32,045	9,773	1.1
TOTAL	8,322,903	924,050	100.0

Source: Ministry of Forests, Strategic Studies Branch.

and permits to use Crown range for grazing purposes are issued by the Ministry of Forests. At present, over 8.3 million hectares of Crown range are under permit or licence. Crown range also includes 168,000 hectares of commurity pasture reserves which are used co-operatively by several ranchers and intensively managed for grazing purposes (Table 17).

Crown range presently provides 924,000 animal unit months of forage annually (i.e. enough forage to support 231,000 cows and calves for four months of grazing). The most extensively used rangelands include the dry fir and larch forests, forest lands in transition to rangeland, open range and lodgepole pine forests, all of which are primarily located throughout the south and central interior of the province. The potential for the province's Crown rangeland to support an increased level of grazing use is not known, but it is generally acknowledged that the carrying capacity of Crown range is approaching the maximum limit.

Private rangeland encompasses an estimated 1.3 million hectares, including 160,000 hectares of Crown land under grazing lease from the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing. Statistics on the use and cover of private rangelands are not known.

Wildlife Land

Wildlife land includes those lands which have sufficient food, protective cover and space to support and maintain wildlife populations. As part of the Canada Land Inventory program, approximately two-thirds of the land area in British Columbia has been mapped in terms of its capability to support the production of wild ungulates. Species include deer, moose, elk, caribou, mountain goat and mountain sheep. Approximately 9 million hectares are

Land Capability for Ungulates in British Columbia

TABLE 19

CLI Class	Area (ha)	Percent
1W	302,431	0.3
1	2,347	—
2W	2,665,780	2.8
2	163,026	0.2
3W	5,998,255	6.3
TOTAL Higher Capability Classes	9,131,839	9.6
3	8,304,362	8.8
4	21,738,247	22.9
5	14,674,035	15.5
6	4,279,778	4.5
7	1,360,856	1.4
Unclassified	525,013	0.6
TOTAL CLI Coverage	60,014,130	63.3
Unsurveyed	34,765,870	36.7
TOTAL Area	94,780,000	100.0

Source: Environment Canada, Lands Directorate 1980, *Land Capability Classification for Wildlife - Ungulates: Summary Report*, CLI Report No. 17, Ottawa.

1 Class ratings followed by a W indicate winter range capability.

rated as having a high to very high capability for ungulate production (CLI Classes 1W, 2W, and 3W) (Table 19). Almost all of these high capability lands are winter range on which animals from surrounding areas depend for survival during the winter season. The Canada Land Inventory has also identified approximately 650,000 hectares as having high land capability for waterfowl production (Classes 1, 2 and 3) (Tabie 21).

Much of the land in the province with high capability for ungulates has been settled and is no longer available for ungulate production. This has led to increasing public pressure to have the remaining high capability lands retained for ungulate use. Most Crown land with high ungulate capability is now included within provincial forests and managed by the Ministry of Forests, in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment.

TABLE 20 **Land with High Capability for Ungulates in British Columbia by Species (hectares)**

Species	CLI Class 1 and 2	CLI Class 1W, 2W and 3W[1]	Total	Percent of Total CLI Coverage (Table 19)
Caribou	77,182	675,771	752,953	1.3
Deer	58,288	4,252,789	4,311,045	7.2
Elk	47,874	906,972	954,846	1.6
Goat	17,509	497,846	515,355	0.9
Moose	35,163	5,802,649	5,837,812	9.7
Mountain Sheep	58,081	204,088	262,169	0.4

Source: Environment Canada, Lands Directorate 1980, *Land Capability Classification for Wildlife - Ungulates: Summary Report*, CLI Report No. 17, Ottawa.

1 Class ratings followed by a W indicate winter range capability.

Areas set aside exclusively for wildlife management in British Columbia presently encompass approximately 740,000 hectares of Crown land. Interest has also been expressed by the Ministry of Environment in another 140,000 hectares of Crown land for wildlife purposes. As indicated in Table 22, most of the protected wildlife lands have been established in ungulate winter range, with only minor amounts of estuaries and freshwater protected.

Land with High Capability for Waterfowl in British Columbia

TABLE 21

CLI Class	Area (ha)	Percent
Class 1	461,176	0.5
Class 2	52,235	0.1
Class 3	131,691	0.1
TOTAL Classes 1-3	645,102	0.7
TOTAL Classes 4-7	62,057,435	65.5
TOTAL CLI coverage	62,702,537	66.2
Unsurveyed	32,077,463	33.8
TOTAL Area	94,780,000	100.00

Source: Canada Land Data Systems, 1977 in Environment Canada, 1979, *Canada's Special Resource Lands*, Ottawa.

TABLE 22

Status of Wildlife Lands in British Columbia 1981

Status of Land	Area (ha)
Provincial Crown	
Land Act Designations	
Order in Council Reserves	369,015
Map Reserves	354,514
Notations of Interest	143,682
Crown Land Administered by Fish and Wildlife Branch	
Section 101 transfer	6,163
Greenbelt Act Designations	3,324
Branch Purchases to 1981	1,993
Habitat Conservation Fund[1]	1,362
Lease	1,647
Other[1]	2,074
TOTAL Provincial Crown	883,775
Federal Crown	
National Wildlife Areas	2,361
Migratory Bird Sanctuaries	2,896
TOTAL Federal	5,257
Private Wildlife Lands	
Ducks Unlimited	10,107
Nature Conservancy of Canada	298
National Second Century Fund	3,138
TOTAL Private	13,543
TOTAL Wildlife Lands	902,575

Source: Robinson, D.J., 1982. "Wildlife Management and Land Use: How are We Faring for Space?" in *British Columbia Land for Wildlife: Past, Present, Future.*

Habitat Type of Provincial Wildlife Lands in British Columbia

TABLE 23

Habitat Type	Area (ha)	Percent
Marine Intertidal Estuarine	35,639	4.1
Freshwater Wetlands	26,185	3.0
Ungulate Range	793,205	90.7
Terrestrial Bird Habitat	362	
Mixed Habitats	17,547	2.0
Recreational Access	1,764	0.2
TOTAL	874,702	100.0

Source: Robinson, D.J., 1982. "Wildlife Management and Land Use: How are We Faring for Space?" in *British Columbia Land for Wildlife: Past, Present and Future.*

TABLE 24 Land Capability for Recreation in British Columbia

CLI Class	Land Area (ha)	Percent	Shoreline Length (km)
1	18,612	—	347
2	161,339	0.2	1,782
3	1,028,429	1.1	10,698
4	4,731,590	5.0	26,055
5	13,944,559	14.7	26,927
6	36,359,084	38.2	6,843
7	3,196,814	3.5	1,956
TOTAL CLI Coverage	59,440,427	62.7	75,475
Unsurveyed	35,339,573	37.3	n.k.
TOTAL Area	94,780,000	100.0	n.k.

Source: Environment Canada, Lands Directorate (1970), *Land Capability for Recreation: Summary Report*, by M.C. Taylor, Ottawa.

Recreation Land

Almost all of British Columbia's land has some capability to support one or more recreational activities. Much of the province is rated Class 4 through 6 by the Canada Land Inventory classification of land capability for recreation. These areas are considered capable of supporting relatively dispersed recreation activities such as hiking and nature study. Lands rated Classes 1 to 3, although less widespread, are capable of supporting more intensive recreation activities including bathing, skiing and organized camping. Less than 200,000 hectares within the classified portion of the province has a high capability to support intensive recreational use (Classes 1 and 2). These high capability areas are generally located adjacent to waterbodies having a shoreline length of over 2,000 kilometres (Table 24).

Inventoried Shoreline in CLI Classes 1-3 by Selected Activity Subclasses in British Columbia

TABLE 25

Activity Subclass	Percent of Total Shoreline in each Class		
	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
Angling	0.4	3.1	17.0
Camping	6.3	19.5	20.6
Deep-water boating	18.2	14.6	6.5
Viewing	3.2	13.2	7.7
Wetland Wildlife	—	20.6	4.4
Bathing	70.3	19.4	4.6
Lodging	—	2.9	27.7
Access to family bathing	—	—	3.0
Other	1.63	6.7	8.5

Source: Environment Canada, Lands Directorate (1970), *Land Capability for Recreation: Summary Report*, by M.C. Taylor, Ottawa.

TABLE 26

Parkland in British Columbia - 1984

Type	Number	Area (ha)
Federal		
National Parks	5	483,900
Provincial		
Class A Parks[1]	292	3,019,477
Class B Parks[2]	5	1,229,782
Class C Parks	39	1,211
Recreation Areas	31	262,776
Wilderness Conservancies	1	131,523
TOTAL Provincial Park Areas	368	4,644,769
Regional Parks	71	7,852
TOTAL Park Areas	444	5,136,521

Source: Parks Canada and B.C. Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division

1 Includes 2 nature conservancies totalling 230,560 ha.
2 Includes 5 nature conservancies totalling 426,538 ha.

Most land with high capability for intensive and extensive outdoor recreation has been reserved as parkland. In addition to 4.6 million hectares of provincial parkland, recreation areas and wilderness conservancies managed by the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, there are 5 national parks encompassing approximately 500,000 hectares, plus numerous smaller regional parks administered by regional districts. Provincial parks are established under the *Park Act* and are categorized according to a number of different classifications:

> Class "A" Parks are intended to preserve outstanding natural, scenic and historic features for public recreational use. No commercial or industrial exploitation is permissible except when required to maintain recreational values.

Class "B" Parks are intended for public recreational use. Other resource use may be permitted provided it does not detract from the recreational potential of the park.

Class "C" Parks are intended primarily for recreational use by local residents and are managed by park boards appointed from area residents. No commercial or industrial exploitation is permissible except as may be necessary to provide planned recreational use.

Recreation Areas are intended primarily for public recreational use. Other resource use may be permitted provided it does not materially detract from the area's recreational potential.

Park Classification of National and Provincial Parks in British Columbia - 1979

TABLE 27

Classification	National		Provincial		Total	
	No.	Area (ha)	No.	Area (ha)	No.	Area (ha)
Wilderness Areas (larger than 16,200 ha)	4	430,310	26	4,373,894	30	4,804,204
Historical, ethnological and archaeological	5	48	10	649	15	697
Unique Areas		—	70	4,082	70	4,082
Natural environment (larger then 202 ha)	1	13,986	66	149,285	67	163,271
Specialized outdoor recreation areas (less than 202 ha)		—	94	6,967	94	6,967
Parkway, highway, parks		—	31	137	51	137
TOTAL Designated Park Area	10	444,344	297	4,535,014	327	4,979,358

Source: Federal-Provincial Parks Conference, October 1-5, 1979. *Park Classification System, National and Provincial Parks*, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Nature Conservancy Areas are roadless areas within provincial parks or recreation areas reserved absolutely for the preservation of representative ecosystems and landforms in their natural state.

Wilderness Conservancies are roadless tracts in which both natural and ecological communities are preserved intact. The province's only wilderness conservancy, the Purcell Wilderness Conservancy, is established pursuant to the *Environment and Land Use Act*, but administered by the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing.

Forest lands are also used for recreational purposes. The Forest Service presently maintains 1,130 recreational sites and 1,250 kilometres of trails on Crown land under its jurisdiction.

There is also an unknown amount of private and Crown recreational land used for cottaging and various commercial recreation activities, including skiing, fishing and hunting camps and marinas.

Mineral and Petroleum Resource Land

About 5 percent of the province's sub-surface land has high potential for mineral and coal production, and another 20 percent has moderate potential. In addition,

Status of Mineral Land in British Columbia

TABLE 28

Land Status	Area (ha)
Crown Lands	
Mineral Claims (1983)[1]	2,667,075
Placer Mining Leases (1983)[2]	47,250
Mineral Leases (1984)	3,634
Quarry Leases (Land Act 1984)	6,118
TOTAL Crown Lands	2,724,077
Private Lands (1984)[3]	
Undesignated Mineral Lands	483,999
Agricultural Forgiveness	192,434
Production Areas	9,477
Production Tracts	3,065
Charity	570
TOTAL Private Lands	689,145
TOTAL Mineral Lands	3,413,223

Source: B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, Mineral Titles Branch and Mineral Revenue Branch and Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing

1 106,683 mineral claim units times maximum size of 25 ha.
2 945 placer mining leases times maximum size of 50 ha.
3 Areas of land over which mineral rights have been privately acquired, but presence of minerals not necessarily determined (mineral land tax assessment roll designations for tax purposes).

extensive areas of the province's northeast and offshore areas have potential for petroleum production. Some of this potential has already been realized through the mining of deposits which have been economically viable. However, many known deposits remain undeveloped, and others are yet to be discovered.

Approximately 95 percent of the province remains open for mineral exploration. In 1983, mineral claims issued for exploration purposes by the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources covered an estimated 2.7 million hectares of Crown land (Table 28). A further 6.2 million hectares of permits were issued for petroleum and natural gas exploration (Table 29).

The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum resources also administers mineral and placer mining leases covering an additional 50,000 hectares of Crown land, plus petroleum and natural gas leases on 5 million hectares. These leases provide rights to individuals and companies to proceed with actual production.

In addition to this activity on Crown land, 700,000 hectares of private land are also subject to mineral exploration and/or production in the province.

TABLE 29

Petroleum and Natural Gas Tenures in British Columbia - 1982

	Number	Area (ha)
Petroleum and Natural Gas Permits	342	6,173,551
Petroleum and Natural Gas Leases	7,546	5,048,562
Natural Gas Licences	—	—
Natural Gas Leases	292	313,717
Petroleum Leases	6	1,548
Drilling Reservations/Licences	35	126,791
TOTAL	8,221	11,664,169

Source: B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, *Oil and Gas Statistics 1947-1982.*

Land Area Disturbed, Utilized and Reclaimed by Mining in British Columbia (hectares)

TABLE 30

Type of Mine	Mining Activity	Mine Waste	TOTAL	Area Reclaimed
Metallic and Non-metallic	18,115	13,223	31,338	1,595
Coal	6,175	5,150	11,325	1,750
Construction Materials	16,675	14,500	31,175	—
TOTAL	40,965	32,873	73,838	3,345

Source: Environment Canada, Lands Directorate, *Mining, Land Use, and the Environment, 1983.*

The surface area of land actually used for the extraction of minerals and petroleum resources is relatively limited compared to the area under tenure. According to Marshall (1982), 74,000 hectares of land in British Columbia have been utilized for mining activity and mining waste, of which 3,400 hectares have been reclaimed (Table 30). Comparable data for petroleum extraction are not available.

TABLE 31

Built-on Land in British Columbia - 1981

Land Type	Area (ha)	Percent
Urban and Rural Settlement	276,342	53
Transportation	218,988	42
Farmstead	26,070	5
TOTAL	521,400	100

Source: John A.G. Hansen (March 1984) "Built-on Land: Definition and Canadian Area Estimates", *Plan Canada* (23.4), 122-133. pp.

Settlement Land

Settlement land refers to land used for residential, commercial and industrial purposes. Although firm statistics on the area of land in settlement use in the province are not known, it has recently been estimated by Hansen (1984) that there were approximately 300,000 hectares of land in urban settlement rural settlement, and farmsteads in 1981 (Table 31).

It is generally acknowledged that most settlement land in the province is privately owned and located within municipal boundaries. However, there are no statistics available to confirm this. The use of these lands is subject to zoning bylaws and community plans administered by municipal governments.

Municipal Statistics for British Columbia - 1982 (hectares) TABLE 32

	Vancouver	Cities[1]	Districts[2]	Towns	Villages	Total
Area Assessed for Taxation						
Land	6,533	102,310	485,597	6,597	26,653	627,690
Water	—	5,536	3,952	120	596	10,204
Area Exempt from Taxation						
Public Parks	1,308	3,973	12,090	172	1,142	18,685
Other Land	534	27,297	284,318	958	19,904	333,011
Water	243	11,030	57,935	846	9,716	79,770
Streets, Roads and Alleys	2,997	9,514	20,125	772	1,567	34,975
TOTAL	11,615	159,660	864,017	9,465	59,578	1,104,335

Source: Ministry of Municipal Affairs (1983) *Municipal Statistics for the Year Ended December 31, 1982*. Victoria.

1 Other than Vancouver
2 Districts may include large areas of rural land.

There are also extensive areas of settlement land located in rural and unorganized areas of the province. These rural settlement lands include lands used for residential purposes, hobby farms, and highway-related commercial and industrial activity. Administration of settlement land use in unorganized areas is the responsibility of the appropriate regional district.

Table 32 shows the total area of land assessed for taxation for cities, districts, towns and villages in the province. The 630,000 hectares of assessed (private) land includes extensive areas of agricultural land in addition to residential, industrial and commercial lands.

The area of industrial parks and sites in British Columbia is shown in Table 33. At the present time, there are approximately 2,000 hectares of serviced land available for potential industrial use.

TABLE 33 Availability of Industrial Land in British Columbia - 1984

Industrial Land Type	Area (ha)	Percent
Occupied Land	3,965	26.2
Available Land (Serviced)	2,087	13.8
Available Land (Unserviced)	9,057	60.0
TOTAL	15,109	100.0

Source: Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development, *Inventory of Industrial Parks and Sites in British Columbia* (May 22, 1984).

Other Land Uses

Transportation and Utility Land

Land used for transportation and utility purposes includes roads, railways, airports, transmission lines and pipelines. Areas used for hydroelectric power development are discussed under the heading Water Supply Land.

Major Transmission Lines and Pipelines in British Columbia - 1983

TABLE 34

Category	Total in A.L.R.[1] km	Total in A.L.R.[1] ha	Total in B.C. km	Total in B.C. ha
Transmission Lines				
360 and 500 kv	1,652	10,572	4,694	30,041
230 to 287 kv	895	3,759	2,164	9,089
TOTAL Transmission Lines[2]	2,547	14,331	6,858	39,130
Pipelines				
Transmission	1,795	2,692	5,325	7,987
Gathering	370	370	970	970
TOTAL Pipelines	2,165	3,062	6,295	8,957
Major Stations				
Transmission Line	n.a.	100	n.a.	270
Pipeline	n.a.	120	n.a.	260
TOTAL Stations	n.a.	220	n.a.	530
TOTAL	4,712	17,613	13,153	48,617

Source: TERA Environmental Consultants Ltd. (December 1983) *Opportunities and Risks Presented to Agriculture by Linear Developments.* Project No. 271315 under Canada, British Columbia Subsidiary Agreement on Agriculture and Rural Development.

1 Agricultural Land Reserve.
2 Does not include land used for 138 kv circuits.

There are at least 254,000 hectares of land used for transportation in the province, of which 35,000 hectares are streets, roads and alleys within municipal boundaries, and 219,000 hectares are roads, railroads and airports in rural areas (Hansen, 1984) (Table 31). The area of resource roads, including forest and mineral exploration roads, is not known.

Utility lands include 65,000 hectares of land used for high voltage transmission lines (138 Kv and higher) and 9,000 hectares of land used for pipeline purposes. Information on the area used for low voltage lines and local gas distribution lines is not known.

Ecological Reserves

Ecological Reserves are areas of Crown land set aside for:

- scientific research and educational purposes to study nature in an undisturbed environment;
- representative benchmark areas against which to measure the effect of changes created by man or nature;
- banks of genetic material; and
- preserving rare, unique and endangered native plants or animals in their natural surroundings.

Ecological Reserves differ from parks, recreational areas and wildlife management areas, in that they are intended primarily for scientific purposes and casual, non-consumptive uses such as hiking, photography and bird watching. As of 1984, 113 Ecological Reserves had been established covering 150,930 hectares (Table 35). One-third of this area is water or subtidal area.

Heritage Resource Land

Heritage resources comprise the physical effects of past settlement and resource use and include a variety of sites, artifacts, structures and travel routes of prehistoric, historic and cultural importance. As of June 1984 there were 55 provincial and 305 municipal designated heritage sites in British Columbia. In addition, there are approximately 13,000 archaeological sites which have been inventoried plus some 3,000 archaeological sites yet to be catalogued.

Six Largest Ecological Reserves in British Columbia - 1984

TABLE 35

Name	Object or Community Type Preserved	Area (ha)
Gladys Lake	Stone Sheep, Mountain goats and their environment	48,560
Checleset Bay	B.C.'s prime sea otter populations and rare native oyster population	34,650 (mostly subtidal)
Harvey, Conroy & Byers Islets	Important seabird and marine mammal breeding	12,205 (mostly subtidal)
Port Chanal, Graham Island	Virgin littoral environment, sitka spruce, rare mosses, seabird colony	9,834 (partly subtidal)
East Redonda Island	Three biogeoclimatic zones with many habitats	6,212
Dewdney Island and Glide Islands	Costal western hemlock plant communities and marine wildlife	3,845
TOTAL for Six Largest		115,306
107 Smaller Reserves		35,624
TOTAL Ecological Reserves		150,930

Source: Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, Land Programs Branch, Land Dispositions and Reserves Section.

Water Supply Land

Water supply lands are lands designated or used for domestic, agricultural or hydroelectric purposes. They include 1.8 million hectares of freshwater area in the province, 1.1 million hectares of community watersheds, plus an unknown amount of land leased by the Greater Vancouver Water District for water supply purposes and land owned by the Greater Victoria Water District. Included within the 1.8 million hectares of freshwater are 336,000 hectares of reservoirs used for electrical generation purposes.

In addition to these water supply lands, there are an additional 591,400 hectares of land within flood reserves for potential hydroelectric generation and flood control purposes in the province.

TABLE 36

Drainage Area of Major Rivers in British Columbia

Major Rivers	Drainage Area (ha)	Percent
Fraser	23,000,000	24.3
Columbia*	8,800,000	9.3
Peace*	9,900,000	10.4
Liard*	13,500,000	14.2
Skeena	4,200,000	4.4
Stikine*	2,900,000	3.1
Nass*	2,100,000	2.2
Taku*	1,700,000	1.8
TOTAL Major Rivers	66,100,000	69.7
Other Rivers	28,680,000	30.3
TOTAL Area	94,780,000	100.0

*B.C. portion only

Source: Farley, A.L. (1979), *Atlas of British Columbia*, Vancouver, University of British Columbia Press.

Area of Major Lakes in British Columbia

TABLE 37

Major Lakes	Area (ha)	Percent
Williston (reservoir)	175,000	9.4
Nechako (reservoir)	84,700	4.6
Atlin (B.C. portion)	56,200	3.0
Arrow, Upper and Lower (reservoirs)	51,800	2.8
Babine	49,700	2.7
McNaughton (reservoir)	44,500	2.4
Kootenay	42,700	2.3
Stuart	36,000	1.9
Okanagan	35,200	1.9
Shuswap	31,900	1.7
TOTAL Major Lakes	607,700	32.7
Other Water Area	1,251,100	67.3
TOTAL Water Area	1,858,800	100.0

Source: Farley, A.L. (1979), *Atlas of British Columbia*, Vancouver, University of British Columbia Press.

Status of Community Watersheds in British Columbia[1]

TABLE 38

Watershed Designation	Number of Watersheds	Total Population Served[1]	Total land area (hectares)
Category I (2.4 ha or less)	175	210,085	83,604.8
Category II (2.4 to 14.2 ha)	79	178,368	322,660.7
Category III (over 14.2 a)	31	123,529	722,399.5
TOTAL	285	511,982	1,128,665.0

Source: B.C. Ministry of Environment (October, 1980), *Guidelines for Management of Crown Lands Used as Community Water*

1 Does not include Greater Vancouver

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